



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



INTERIM RELIEF PROGRAM FOR CRSV IN IRAQ:

**SURVIVORS' GRANT SCHEME IN
PRACTISE AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR ITS IMPROVEMENT**

March 2021

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ABSTRACT

In August 2014, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) swept across the Nineveh Plains and Sinjar, launching an immediate and longer-term genocide and community extermination campaign. Minorities such as Christians, Kakais Shabakhs, Turkmen, and Yazidis were attacked, captured, displaced, and killed. The Yazidi community was targeted by the terrorist group, justified as not being a “People of the Book,” and therefore labeled as unequivocally “infidels.” Within just a few days, 12,000 Yazidis were either abducted, enslaved, or killed, and a peaceful community of around 400,000 people was forcibly displaced from Sinjar.

Since then, Iraq has been struggling to provide reparation to ISIL survivors. After two years of relentless advocacy work by Yazidi women survivors and leaders in civil society, Iraqi President H.E. President Dr. Barham Salih submitted the Yazidi Female Survivors Bill to the Iraqi Parliament. Thankfully, in a historic milestone Iraqi Parliament session on March 2021¹, Iraqi lawmakers endorsed and voted the submitted bill, now known as the Yazidi Female Survivors Law. While in legislative deliberations, the Iraqi government decided to provide interim relief measures to Yazidi women survivors. Between April 2019 and July 2019, the Iraqi Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) announced individual one-time grants of 2 million Iraqi dinars (approximately 1,700\$) for 899 Yazidi survivors. However, to date, only 858 survivors have received their dues. The eligibility criteria remains unclear to applicants and their families, with little clarity on why some have received their grant while others still have not.

To understand the process, identify the challenges, and provide recommendations, Yazda interviewed 100 Yazidi women survivors to better understand their experiences when applying for the grant. The findings suggest that the successful implementation of the grant is impeded by lack of transparency, absence of any outreach mechanism, and no clear assessment protocol. Moreover, the completion of payments of the grant to the remaining survivors is not guaranteed, adding to the unease and frustration of survivors who have not yet received their benefaction.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Yazda is a 501(c)(3) US-based non-governmental and not-for-profit organization established in 2014 in response to the genocide committed by the so-called Islamic State against the Yazidis and other ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq and Syria. It is also registered as an NGO in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, as well as in Australia, Germany, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Yazda aims to prevent future genocides against the Yazidi community and other minorities and to assist them in their recovery from the 2014 genocide. Since its inception, Yazda has worked to provide humanitarian and legal assistance to thousands of ISIL genocide survivors to assist in their post-genocide recovery and ultimately improve their living conditions in Iraq. Yazda's humanitarian mission aims to provide a holistic emergency livelihood response to vulnerable groups in Iraq. Its advocacy mission is to raise awareness among the international community, particularly foreign governments, the United Nations, and other relevant international organizations about human rights violations against vulnerable groups in Iraq and Syria. In the context of the genocide perpetrated by ISIL, Yazda is seeking international recognition of this genocide, particularly by foreign governments and parliamentarians, to galvanize support for accountability initiatives and humanitarian responses. Yazda's accountability mission aims to provide survivors with a sense of justice for the crimes they endured through comprehensive documentation of their testimonies and the collection of evidence as well as the provision of legal assistance.



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society.

As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to:

- Assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration,
- Advance understanding of migration issues,
- Encourage social and economic development through migration, and
- Uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

INTRODUCTION

THE SINJAR ATTACKS

In the early hours of 3 August 2014, ISIS launched a coordinated attack across the Sinjar region of Northern Iraq, homeland to the Yazidi ethnoreligious minority. The advance came from Mosul and Tal Afar in Iraq and Al-Shaddadi and the Tel Hamis region in Syria, besieging the Yazidi community from four sides.

In the hours and days that followed, approximately 12,000 Yazidis were killed or abducted by IS. The perpetrators systematically divided Yazidis into different groups: Young women and girls, some as young as nine years of age, were forcibly converted and transferred to and between various holding sites in Iraq and Syria to be used as sabaya (sex slaves) or forced wives by ISIL fighters, a practice that was officially endorsed and regulated by ISIS leadership; Yazidi boys who had not yet reached puberty were considered to have malleable identities and therefore were separated from their mothers, brain-washed, radicalized, and trained as child soldiers; and older boys and men who refused to convert to Islam, or in some cases even those who agreed to convert under pressure, as well as some of the older women, were summarily executed by shooting or having their throats cut, their bodies often left where they were murdered or dumped in mass graves. Those who were forced to convert to Islam and spared were relocated by ISIL to abandoned villages and exploited as forced laborers.

ISIL's attack also caused an estimated 250,000 Yazidis to flee to Mount Sinjar, where they were surrounded by ISIL for days in temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius. ISIL prevented any access to food, water, or medical care in a deliberate attempt to cause a large number of deaths. Hundreds of Yazidis perished before a coordinated rescue operation involving Yazidi volunteer defenders, Syrian Kurdish fighters, and an international coalition, which led to the opening of a safe passage from Mount Sinjar to Syria between 7 and 13 August 2014.

In addition, ISIL destroyed and desecrated Yazidi religious sites in the territories it occupied. Yazidi homes, farms and other properties were destroyed or looted and mined, while essential infrastructure (electricity grid and generators, wells and pumping stations, irrigation canals, schools, hospitals and all civic facilities) was also systematically destroyed, severely hampering the prospects of surviving Yazidis ever returning to their homeland after liberation.

Today, and according to official numbers,¹ 3,543 Yazidis have returned from captivity (1,204 adult females; 339 adult males; 1,044 female children; 956 male children) and 2,874 Yazidis are still missing (1,300 females and 1,574 males).

A majority of the Yazidis who have not returned still live in very poor conditions in IDP camps.

¹These numbers are the last update from the database of the Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees Affairs, a governmental entity in Duhok. The numbers were given to Yazda by the Head of the office on 7 January 2021.

REPARATION MEASURES

As Iraq tries to move toward a new chapter in its history, with the election of a new government, the consequences of the mass atrocities committed by ISIL still remain to be adequately addressed.

As a first step in the right direction and in response to the Yazidi survivors' tireless advocacy efforts, the Iraqi Presidency submitted on 28 March 2019 the Yazidi female survivors' law (hereafter "draft bill") to the Parliament for review and approval. However, the draft bill was written without any proper consultations with the Yazidi community, Yazidi civil society, or transitional justice experts. The majority of Yazidis were not even aware of the draft reparation bill. Yazda, through its Yazidi Survivors Network (YSN), established in February 2020, is advocating inter alia for improvements to this draft bill to meet the actual needs of the victims. To date, the draft bill has not been enacted by the Iraqi Parliament.

An alternative solution to meet the urgent needs of the victims is interim reparation measures. Such measures are even more urgently needed for conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) victims, who require immediate support because of the specific and often devastating physical and psychological impact on an individual and community level, and the sensitivity attached to these abuses in society.

In 2019, Iraq took another step in the right direction to address atrocities against Yazidis. Indeed, 'the Supreme Committee for the Relief and Shelter of Families Displaced by Terrorist Operations,' later renamed to be 'The Higher Committee for the Relief and support of the Displaced' (Higher Committee) introduced interim compensation measures in the form of a one-off payment to Yazidi survivors.² In March 2019, the Higher Committee adopted Resolution 735, calling for the establishment of Survivors' Grant scheme, which would provide an amount of IQD 2,000,000 (two million) to *'each [women] of the displaced survivors of Da'esh's terrorist organization's abduction, from Yazidis and others.'*³ This resolution was followed by the Decision of Minister for Migration and Displacement dated 17 April 2019 (No. 780), approving the scheme and instructing the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) as to its implementation.⁴

For the purpose of identifying eligible survivors, information on survivors gathered by two Kurdistan Regional Government entities (General Directorate of the Yazidi Women's Affairs in the Ministry of Endowments and The Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees within the Kurdistan Regional Government's Prime Minister's Office), were sent to the federal Ministry for Migration and Displacement (MoMD).⁵

The Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees informed Yazda on 17 January 2021 that 858 Yazidi women have benefited from this payment so far.⁶ A further 1,390 survivors have not received any payment because of a lack of funding from the MoMD.⁷

²Cabinet Approves Measures to Strengthen Support for People Displaced by Terrorist Operations' 25th December, 2019. Available at <https://gds.gov.iq/cabinet-approves-measures-to-strengthen-support-for-people-displaced-by-terrorist-operations/>

³The text in italic is a literal translation of the Arabic text of resolution 735. The English translation reads as follows '...each one of the Yazidi displaced women and others'. Resolution 735 amends provisions of previous resolution 679.

⁴See Resolution 735 and MoMD Decision 780.

⁵Part Second and Three of Resolution 735- Second and Third.

⁶Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 17 January 2021 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

⁷Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH DESIGN

Key research objectives

Conduct an exploratory assessment of the survivors grant scheme by interviewing survivors and government stakeholders to:

1. Understand the perceptions of survivors towards the scheme who have either received the grant, applied for the grant but have yet to receive it, or have not applied for it to-date
2. Understand potential shortcomings and challenges in the design and execution of the survivors grant scheme
3. Recommend opportunities to strengthen the grant scheme by integrating the voices of survivors to ensure survivor-centricity, while also including feedback from government stakeholders
4. Present this study and its findings in official advocacy sessions with government stakeholders to encourage a strategic review and stronger implementation of the grant scheme for all survivors

Investigative interviewing

It was important, for the purposes of conducting this study, to ensure that the voices of survivors and views of government stakeholders were properly represented in our findings and this paper. To effectively portray the views of our research participants, interviews were chosen as the form of inquiry to ensure the collection of diverse, valid, and insightful data.

The average duration of an interview was 60 minutes. Interview questions were designed and formulated by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with feedback from Yazda. Questions were divided to target the three categories of survivors explained in the Research participants section of this methodology.

Study limitations

Given the rapid research effort to inform urgent advocacy efforts, study findings, and this paper, the research conducted and this published paper represent interim findings. There is strong opportunity to further expand this research to ensure the inclusion of survivor voices in other minority groups, beyond the Yazidi community.

DATA COLLECTION

Research participants: Survivor interviewees

100 female survivors of ISIL captivity were interviewed for the purpose of this study. All interviewees aged from 12 to 65 years old. All survivors interviewed were Yazidi and female, exception for one Turkmen survivor. Interviewees represent three categories of survivors:

- Category A - Those who received the grant: 38 survivors
- Category B - Those who applied, but who had still not received payments at the time interviews were conducted: 51 survivors
- Category C - Those who did not apply at the time of the interviews because they were not aware of the grant scheme: 11 survivors

This targeted categorization allowed this study to explore on those aware of the grant and who had

applied for it, while also including those who had not.

Interviewed survivors currently live in 21 different locations in and outside of Iraq. Survivors inside Iraq are mainly either living in internally displaced people (IDP) camps in and around the Duhok Governorate in Kurdistan, or have returned to Sinjar. Survivors abroad live in Australia, Canada, and Germany.

EXHIBIT 1: LOCATION OF THE 100 INTERVIEWED SURVIVORS

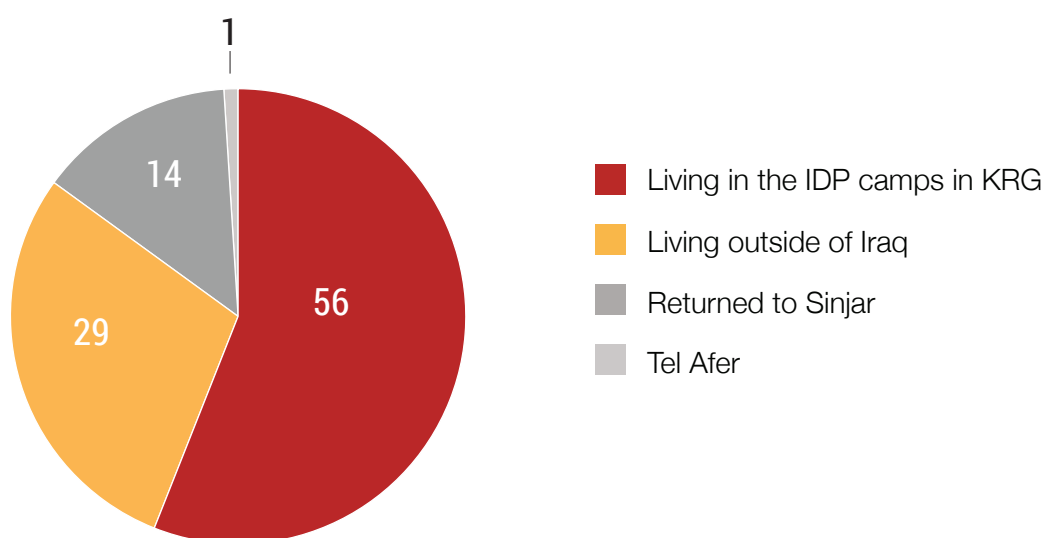


EXHIBIT 2: 56 INTERVIEWED SURVIVORS LIVE IN IDP CAMPS IN KRG

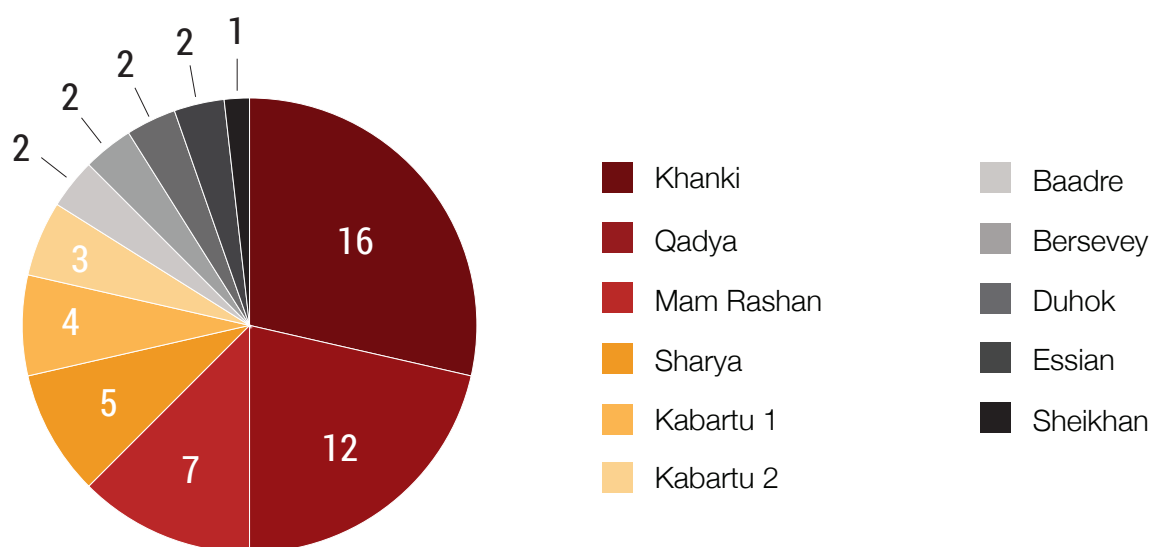


EXHIBIT 3:
29 INTERVIEWED SURVIVORS LIVE OUTSIDE OF IRAQ

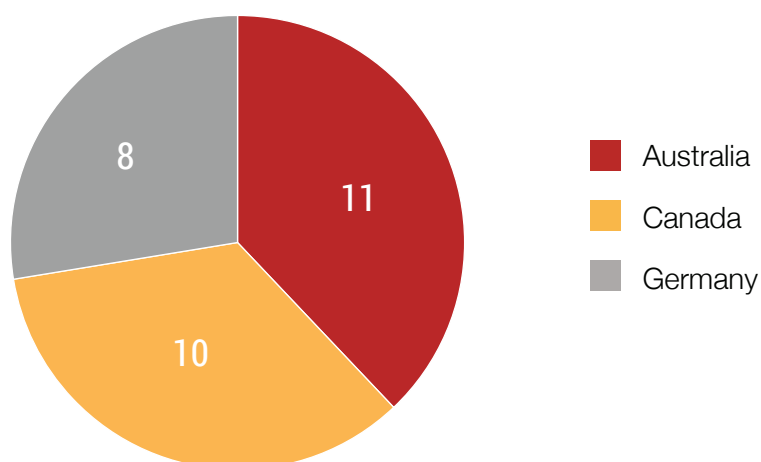
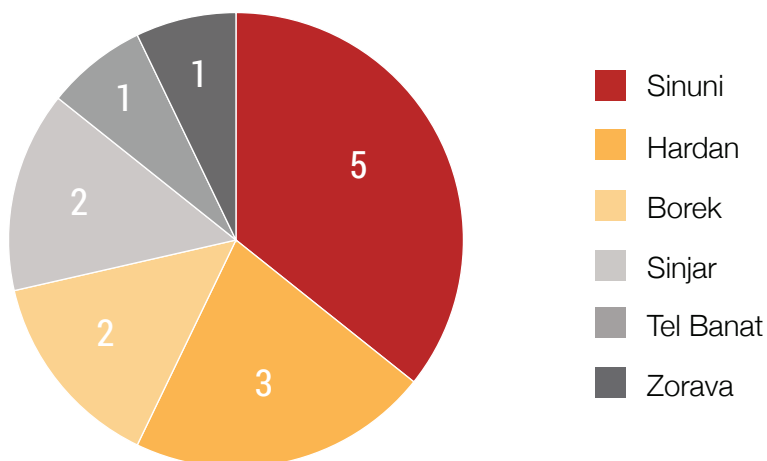


EXHIBIT 4:
14 INTERVIEWED SURVIVORS RETURNED TO SINJAR



In addition, to our interviewed survivors, additional stakeholder interviews were conducted. Three human rights activists and defenders, each representing a different community – Christian, Shabakh, and Turkmen – were also interviewed. Yazda also conducted interviews with Mr. Hussein Koro of the Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees (hereafter the “Office for Yazidi Abductees”) on December 23, 2020 and again on January 17, 2021. The Office is a governmental body in the Kurdistan Regional Government

(KRG), which has played a role in freeing thousands of Yazidis who were kidnapped by ISIL. This body is responsible for keeping the statistics of rescued and missing people since 2014. Given its mandate, the Office for Yazidi Abductees was selected to support the implementation of the grant scheme. Yazda also met with a representative of the Ministry of Migration and Displaced (MoMD), in Duhok on January 27, 2021.

Research participant recruitment strategy

In September 2020, Yazda was contacted by a group of around 30 female survivors who had decided to advocate for the survivors who had still not received the grant. Together, they set up an informal group on WhatsApp to share information about the grant scheme. All 30 survivors accepted to be interviewed by Yazda for this report and also referred additional survivors who met the above criteria to participate in interviews. One of the survivors of this WhatsApp group became a key focal point for survivors, serving as a crucial liaison and introducer to the majority of the survivors interviewed.

Fieldwork

Experienced interviewers and notetakers from Yazda conducted interviews between September and December 2020.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, safely conducting in-person interviews was not possible. As such, interviews took place over the phone with all necessary efforts taken to ensure the ethics, psycho-social safety, and confidentiality of all survivors.

Language

The interviews were conducted in the Shingali-Kurmanji dialect or Arabic, based on the preference of each survivor.

Research ethics

Participation during data collection was completely voluntary and conducted with consent. All necessary standards and procedures were used to ensure adherence to the strict ethical research standards, especially given this research was conducted with very vulnerable persons. All research participants were promised complete anonymity; therefore, our research results have been fully anonymized to respect the identity and privacy of all participants.

Additionally, wherever possible, survivors with specific needs also benefited from Yazda's referral system for psycho-social support and therapy.

Yazda researchers and notetakers undergo regular research and survivors ethics trainings.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

BENEFICIARIES OF THE GRANT

All survivors who have received the grant so far are female Yazidis; survivors from other communities are not included in the grant scheme. The representative of MoMD explained that the grant is in principle open to female survivors of all ethnic groups but that the current distribution focuses on the Yazidi survivors because they are the worst affected group. He added that the grant will be extended to survivors of other groups in the future but was not able to say when.⁸ This is confirmed by Resolution 735 (see above), which states that the Grant Scheme will be provided to *'each [women] of the displaced survivors of Da'esh's terrorist organization's abduction, from Yazidis and others.'*⁹ (emphasis added). He added: "The grant is only for female survivors for now. Male survivors might be included in the future."¹⁰

Ms. Ranin Tahir Saeed, board member of the NGO Shlomo, confirmed that no Christian survivor has received the grant. She stated: "The government is neglecting Christian survivors and has not enquired for information about them. I ask decision-makers to distribute this grant equally to all survivors since all experienced the same terrible suffering in ISIL captivity, regardless of their religious or ethnic affiliation".¹¹

The representative of the Office for Yazidi Abductees also confirmed that the grant is not only for Yazidi survivors but that it is the right of all survivors regardless of their religion and their ethnicity. He also added that the Office for Yazidi Abductees has registered the names of 15 Christian survivors and they will receive the grant during the second round of distribution.¹²

Ms. Himan Ramzi Mahmid, from Tolay Turkmani NGO, said no Turkmen survivors have received the grant. The Tolay Turkmani NGO wrote an official letter with the name of 22 Turkmen survivors to the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, MoMD, as well as the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, a year ago. The letter remains unanswered.¹³

Ms. Amal Ghazi Jasim, from the Deputy Justice Center for Human Rights and Chair of the Women's Advisory Council, stated "No Shabakh survivor has received the grant and that it is also because of the neglect from the government". She added "Social norms within the Shabakh community were not allowing the survivors to speak out and claim their rights."¹⁴

Finally, the representative of MoMD stated that more than 3,000 survivors applied for the grant and that 858 of them had received it. He explained that not all applications were complete and that they chose the applicants who had submitted complete applications with all required documents. He added: "We are receiving the names randomly from the Office for Yazidi Abductees. The plan was to continue with the rest of the applicants but it was postponed because of the economic crises and the pandemic."¹⁵

⁸Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

⁹The text in italic is a literal translation of the Arabic text of resolution 735. The English translation reads as follows '...each one of the Yazidi displaced women and others'. Resolution 735 amends provisions of previous resolution 679. See Annex.

¹⁰Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

¹¹Phone interview conducted with Ms. Ranin Tahir Saeed on 18 November 2020.

¹²Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

¹³Phone interview conducted with Ms. Himan Ramzi Mahmid on 15 November 2020.

¹⁴Phone interview conducted with Ms. Amal Ghazi Jasim on 29 November 2020.

¹⁵Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

Recommendations

Choosing the names randomly is creating a lot of confusion and frustration among the survivors. During the meeting with the MoMD representative, Yazda asked to be involved in the selection process. Yazda is well placed to help the MoMD to prioritize the most urgent cases and to include families in which no one has received the grant so far. MoMD seemed receptive to the idea and asked Yazda to coordinate this with the Office for Yazidi Abductees as it is the official office working on this topic.¹⁶

It is also recommended to extend the Grant Scheme to all ISIL survivors regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, and age.

LACK OF OUTREACH

In order to apply for the grant, it is obvious that eligible beneficiaries must first know about its existence. As stated above, out of the 100 interviewed survivors, 11 had not heard about the grant and 89 were aware of it because they had either received it (category A) or applied for it without any success (category B).

The 11 survivors who had not heard about the grant stated, “we were not aware of the grant and we never heard about it”. One said “No one told me anything, if I knew, I would have applied” (Yazidi Female Survivor, 23 years old, living currently in Tel Azer, Sinjar). However, it is probable that the number of survivors who are not aware of the grant is much higher.

The 89 interviewees from Category A and B were asked through which channels they had heard about the grant. Interviewees were given the following options:

- Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees
- Community members, including family members
- Media
- NGOs
- Other (explain)

Out of 89, 71 answered that they were informed by community members, 13 heard about it from the Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees Affairs, and 8 heard about it in the media. Among the interviewees, one said they received the information from the community as well the Office for Yazidi Abductees, 2 from community members as well as the media.

The findings suggest that the main source of information about the scheme is in the community itself and that the outreach regarding the grant scheme seems to have been very limited by the authorities.

¹⁶Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

Only a few articles on this topic are available online: Articles were published in Arabic by Ezidi24,¹⁷ the main Yazidi outlet, as well as Rudaw and Kurdistan24.¹⁸ A note in English by the Returns Working Group (RWG) Iraq is available online.¹⁹

While civil society, including NGOs, are usually effective links to the community, no NGO seems to have been approached in the outreach or implementation phase of the grant by the authorities. Yazda has an extensive network of connections to many of the NGOs acting in the humanitarian field, and it has not come across any of them who have been approached.

During the meeting with the MoMD representative, Yazda asked if there was a dedicated phone number the survivors could call to receive information about the grant, the status of their application, or ask questions they might have. He replied that there was no number for the MoMD but that survivors could contact the Office for Yazidi Abductees.²⁰

Based on its database, the Office for Yazidi Abductees calls the survivor to inform them that they were selected to receive the grant. MoMD also displays the list of the beneficiaries of the grant in their office and this list can be consulted by anyone coming to the MoMD office.²¹

Finally, the survivors who know about the grant have often incomplete and wrong information (see below).

Recommendations

The lack of outreach around this grant creates a lot of frustration for the survivors and their families. Neither MoMD nor the Office for Yazidi Abductees seems to have organized proper outreach in camps and social media. The outreach must be comprehensive and explain the reason for the grant, the eligibility criteria and the application process. Survivors should only be informed personally if they were selected to receive the grant, no list should be publicly displayed for obvious reasons of confidentiality and the risk of stigma both for being a survivor and receiving money. Survivors should also be able to reach out to ask any questions they might have.

It is therefore recommended that the relevant stakeholders organize an outreach campaign on this topic with the involvement of NGOs and the community itself and to put in place a dedicated hotline for this grant.

CATEGORY (A) – SURVIVORS WHO APPLIED TO THE GRANT AND RECEIVED IT

38 out of the 100 interviewees confirmed that they had received the grant. These 38 survivors are part of the 858 survivors who benefited from the scheme between April 2019 and June 2019. The survivors who have received the grant are all Yazidi women aged from 16 to 43.

¹⁷Article in Arabic language on Ezidi24 website: <https://ezidi24.com/ar/?p=26587>

¹⁸Article on Arabic language on Kurdistan24: <https://www.kurdistan24.net/ar/story/13793--اليزيديات-والبالغة-العراق-يطلق-منحة-الناجيات>

¹⁹RWG Iraq: <http://iraqrecovery.org/Files/2039/2142.pdf>

²⁰Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

²¹Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

The survivors of category A were asked the following questions:

1. Which documents did you have to submit to receive money?
2. Did you get any explanation about who is giving you money and why? If yes, please provide details.
3. Which part of the procedure would you change in the grant application process and why?
4. When you collected the money, what was the procedure (examples - Did you have to give any statement, were you photographed)?
5. Did you at any point feel uncomfortable or scared throughout the process of application or receiving money?
6. Do you personally know other women survivors who did not receive the grant? If yes, what is the reason they didn't receive it?

1. WHICH DOCUMENTS WERE YOU ASKED TO SUBMIT TO RECEIVE THE MONEY?

When asked which documents they submitted to the MoMD branch in Duhok to receive the grant, the 38 survivors mentioned the following documents and information:

- Copy of their Iraqi ID card
- Copy of citizenship card
- Copy of their passport
- Ration card (also called "family card")
- Their phone numbers
- Personal photos

Nine survivors submitted a copy of their IDs, citizenship, and ration card. Six only gave a copy of their IDs and the citizenship card. Four gave a copy of their ID only. Two submitted a copy of their IDs, citizenship card, and a photo. One submitted a copy of their ID, citizenship card, and passport.

Four could not remember what documents they had submitted, and three did not know because their family members submitted their application on their behalf.

None of the survivors mentioned an application form, and the MoMD representative confirmed there was no form.²² He explained that all survivors have a file in the Office for Yazidi Abductees database and that the MoMD only receives the names and IDs of the applicant. The only time the applicant comes to the MoMD office is when the grant money is ready to be collected.

The documentation that needs to be submitted is unclear and seems to change from one survivor to another. The representative of the Office for Yazidi Abductees suggested the MoMD are creating

²²Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

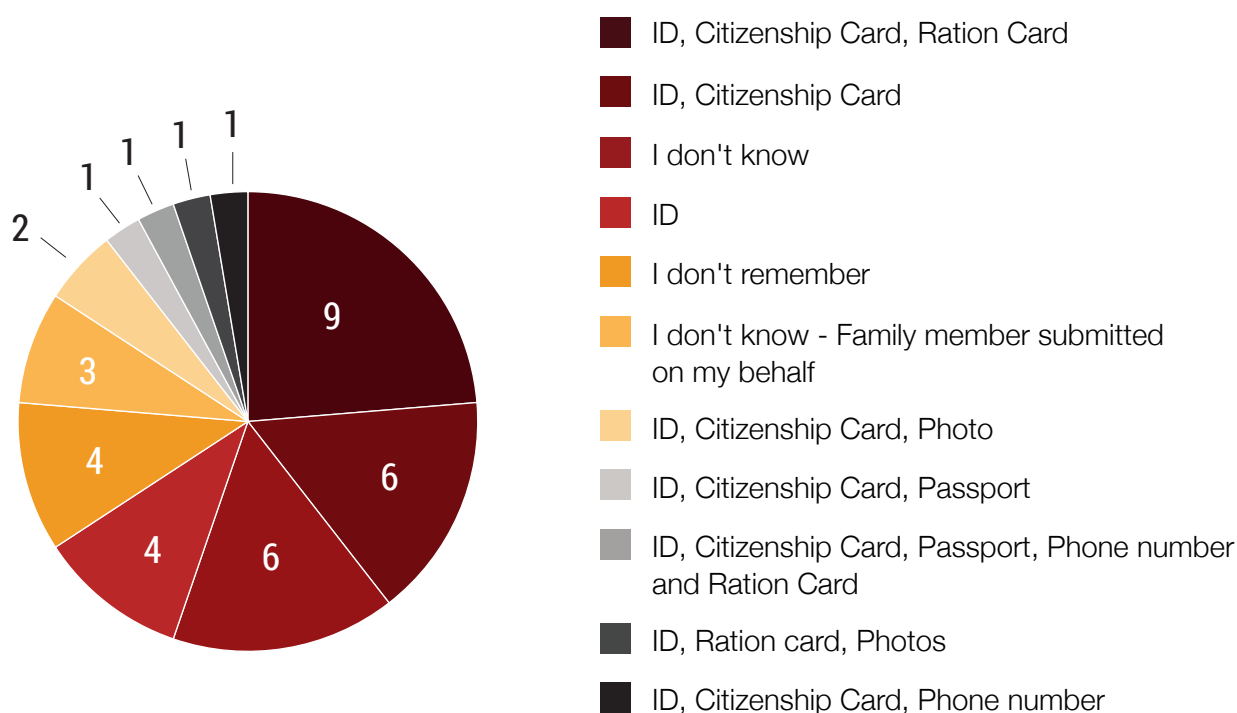
obstacles for the survivors by rejecting old or unclear IDs. He also stated that the MoMD office, on several occasions, rejected official letters in Kurdish, although Kurdish is an official language of Iraq. He finally said that out of the 899 survivors who were supposed to receive the grant, only 858 received it because the other 41 faced obstacles in submitting the required documents.²³ The MoMD representative explained that he was not aware of these challenges faced by the survivors and that the MoMD office accepts documents in both Arabic and Kurdish, since they both are official languages.²⁴

Recommendations

Yazda recommends that the relevant authorities only ask for one type of documentation and that they facilitate the process for survivors who have unclear or old documents.

If a survivor does not have any identifying documents, Yazda recommends the MoMD also verify the identity of a person by consulting, for instance, the tribe leader of that person's village. A possibility is also to consult the ration card which contains the name of all family members.

EXHIBIT 5: WHICH DOCUMENTS DID YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT TO RECEIVE MONEY?



²³Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

²⁴Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

2. DID YOU GET ANY EXPLANATION ABOUT WHO IS GIVING YOU MONEY AND WHY? IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS

NO ONE TOLD ME ANYTHING, IF I KNEW, I WOULD HAVE APPLIED"

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 23 years old, living currently in Tel Azer, Sinjar

The survivors who received the grant did not know the origin of this grant. Out of the 38 interviewees who have benefited from the grant, 35 did not know from whom and why they were receiving the one-time payment. Most of them replied, **"Nobody told me anything."** In several cases, survivors thought that this grant was the same as the Returnee Grant of 1.5 million IQD (around 1,200 USD) that IDPs receive when returning to their areas of origin.

Only 3 survivors replied they got some information grant. One explained that **"when some survivors received the grant in Erbil, a number of people spoke to us and told us that the Iraqi government was providing the grant. I do not know which ministry or office"** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 24 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG). Another one said that someone explained the grant to her, but she could not remember who, or what she was told. A third survivor said that she received the grant because she was a survivor and explained that she had obtained the information from a Yazidi she knows working at the Office for Yazidi Abductees.

Again, this lack of awareness is linked to the absence of outreach efforts by the authorities.

The MoMD representative commented "The Office for Yazidi Abductees is the one communicating and informing survivors (...). The survivor grant is 2 million IQD, which the survivor or guarantor collects, and the returnee grant is 1,5 million IQD, which the head of the household collects. The amount is different and there should be no confusion."²⁵

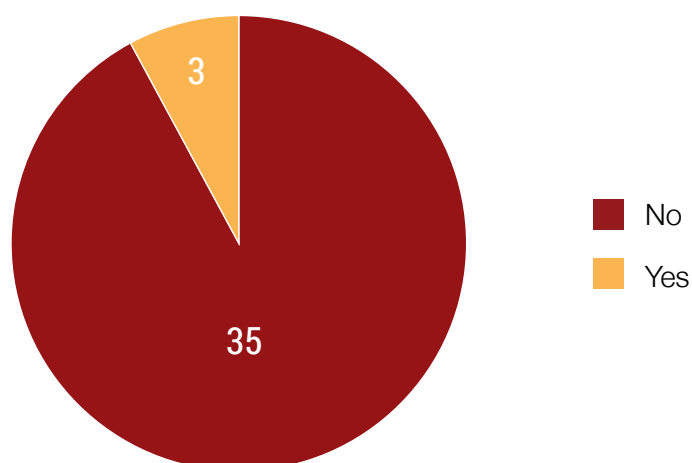
Recommendations

As part of outreach, it is imperative that survivors understand why they are receiving the grant and from whom. This information will give them a feeling of support and also inform them about their rights. Within the explanation, it should also clearly be mentioned that receiving this grant does not preclude any benefits a survivor is entitled to as of right or benefits from another source of assistance.

Again, the authorities can delegate this to NGOs having a direct link with survivors.

²⁵Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

EXHIBIT 6:
DID YOU GET ANY EXPLANATION ABOUT WHO IS GIVING YOU MONEY AND WHY?
IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS



3. WHICH PART OF THE PROCEDURE WOULD YOU CHANGE IN THE GRANT APPLICATION AND WHY?

"THERE SHOULD BE BETTER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS GRANT. I WANT TO KNOW WHY THEY DID NOT GIVE THIS GRANT TO ALL SURVIVORS."

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 16 years old, living currently in Hardan, Sinjar

The interviewees were asked which part of the procedure they would change in the application.

Out of the 38 beneficiaries, 25 answered that they would not change anything.

Five survivors stated that the grant should be given to all survivors and one added **"We want to give this grant to the children and teenagers, regardless of gender."** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 17 years old, living currently in Khanki camp, KRG)

Two survivors asked for better outreach: One explained, **"There should be better communication**

regarding this grant. If my husband had not gone to the Office for Rescuing Yazidi Abductees Affairs, I might have never received the grant because I did not know about its existence” (Yazidi Female Survivor, 23 years old, living currently in Khanki camp, KRG); the second said **“There should be better information about this grant. I want to know why they did not give this grant to all survivors.”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 16 years old, living currently in Hardan, Sinjar).

The following survivors’ comments are illustrative of some Survivors’ Grant shortcomings:

- One survivor said: **“I needed someone to act as my guarantor [a guarantor is appointed by the court if the survivor is minor or living abroad] to receive the grant and that the grant should be given without a guarantor”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Germany); One added: **“The procedure should be facilitated especially for minor survivors”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 24 years old, living currently in Bersevey camp, KRG);
- One survivor said: **“There should be no humiliation from the officers of the MoMD, I felt humiliated when I applied, especially by the way I was spoken to”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 24 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG);
- One survivor said: **“There should not be TV interviews and media during the process”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Khanki camp, KRG);
- One survivor said: **“The relevant authorities should accept survivors’ documents, even if they are incomplete and facilitate the procedures for survivors’ outside of Iraq”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG);
- Another one said: **“Survivors abroad should be able to receive the grant to a bank account in their residency country because sometimes their relatives collect the money on their behalf in Iraq and they don’t send them the total amount”**. She added, **“If I have to travel to receive the grant, I will spend more money on that than the amount of the grant, so if they could give to us the money here or send it to us, it will be better.”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 30 years old, living currently in Australia). The MoMD representative commented on this by saying that the application and collection can go through the Iraqi Embassy in the respective countries where the survivors are residents. The survivor needs to sign a letter to assign someone else to receive the grant money on behalf of her.²⁶

Recommendations

The procedure has to be modified to meet survivors’ needs: Firstly, better outreach about the grant must be implemented. If there is no outreach, survivors will not know that they have the right to apply for this grant, under what conditions, and how to apply.

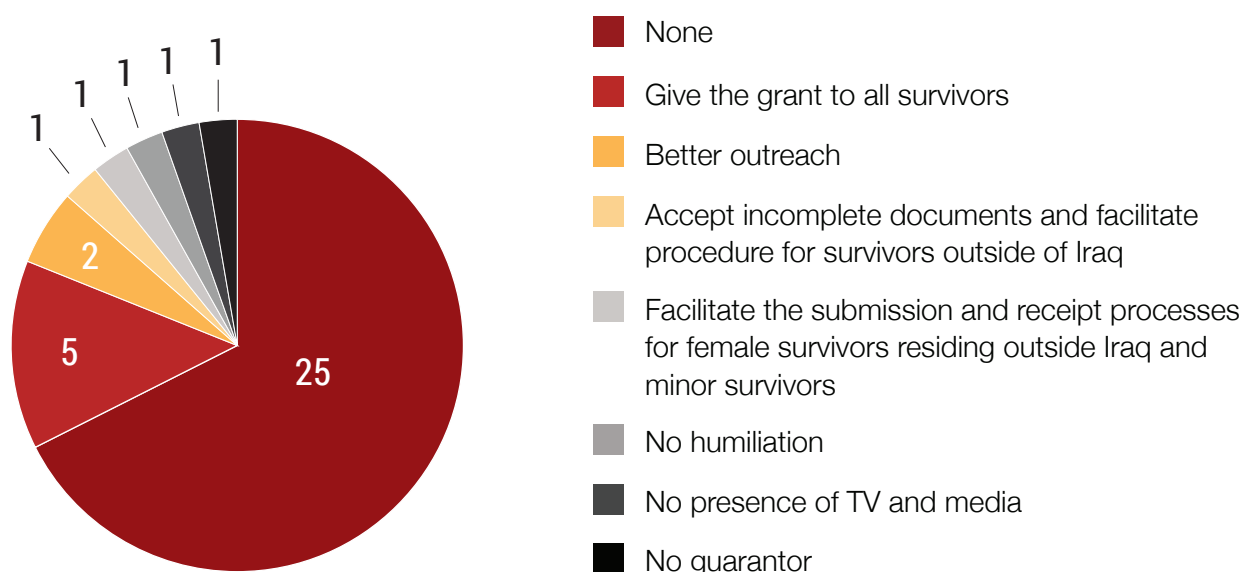
Secondly, the procedure should be the same for all and be carried out in a survivor-centered manner. Officials of the MoMD should receive training on the latter whenever necessary. The MoMD explained that

²⁶Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

his team is composed of 4 to 5 officers from different departments; (legal, administration, IT database) with gender balance (two are female team members in case the survivor doesn't feel comfortable speaking to a male officer). He explained that they have received training and know how to deal with survivors.²⁷ Although this is a good measure, it seems that more needs to be done on that front. Workshops between MoMD officials and NGO workers with experience with survivors could, for instance, be organized.

Finally, the procedure should be conducted with absolute confidentiality, and the media should not be present unless survivors have given their informed consent. The MoMD representative commented on this point, saying that no media are present, but at one instance the media was present in Erbil because it was an official event and because of the presence of the Minister at the time. He added: "Sometimes the media comes, but there are no photos or interviews taken without consent".²⁸ This last point has to be systematically verified and journalists have to receive clear instructions.

EXHIBIT 7: WHICH PART OF THE PROCEDURE WOULD YOU CHANGE IN THE GRANT APPLICATION AND WHY?



²⁷Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

²⁸Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

4. WHEN YOU COLLECTED THE MONEY, WHAT WAS THE PROCEDURE?

“I DIDN’T SEE ANYONE TAKEN A PHOTO OF ME, BUT WHEN I WENT BACK HOME OUR NEIGHBOURS TOLD ME THAT THEY SAW ME ON TV COLLECTING THE GRANT.”

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 35 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG)

Between the submission of the required documentation and the collection of the grant, survivors usually had to wait several months, although some received the grant after a few days. The MoMD has not given information as to how long applicants can expect to wait between the submission of the required documentation and payment of the grant.²⁹ The grant is collected at the MoMD office in Duhok, and it is the only time that survivors go to the MoMD.³⁰

The representative of the Office for Yazidi Abductees commented on this by saying that it was first agreed that his office would distribute the grant to the survivors. However, following some criticism about this on social media (some Yazidi activists said that the office might misuse the fund) he asked the MoMD to take charge of the distribution while his office having a role as an observer. He highlighted that some survivors still think that his office is in charge of the distribution.³¹

When collecting the grant at the MoMD office, 15 survivors stated that there was no particular procedure. Eleven beneficiaries explained that they were only required to sign a document confirming receipt of the grant. One was allowed to sign with a fingerprint because she is illiterate. One survivor had to provide a copy of her ID in addition to the signature, while another had her picture taken in addition to signing. One survivor explained that she had to give a copy of her ID, sign, and that her picture was taken. None of the survivors were able to explain why pictures of them were taken. One explained: **“I didn’t see anyone taken a photo of me, but when I went back home our neighbours told me that they saw me on TV collecting the grant.”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 35 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG).

Four survivors did not know the procedure because a family member collected the grant on their behalf. Two were asked to provide a copy of their ID only. Two were interviewed by media when they collected the money and thought it was part of the procedure. One had to provide a copy of her ID and citizenship card.

None of the survivors were required to give a statement. This is fortunate as it avoids unnecessary further traumatization since the Office for Yazidi Abductees already has their stories in their database. However, two stated that media with cameras were present when they collected the grant and asked them for

²⁹ Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq; Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

³⁰ Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

³¹ Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

interviews. Pictures of them were also taken. No consent was asked of the survivors.

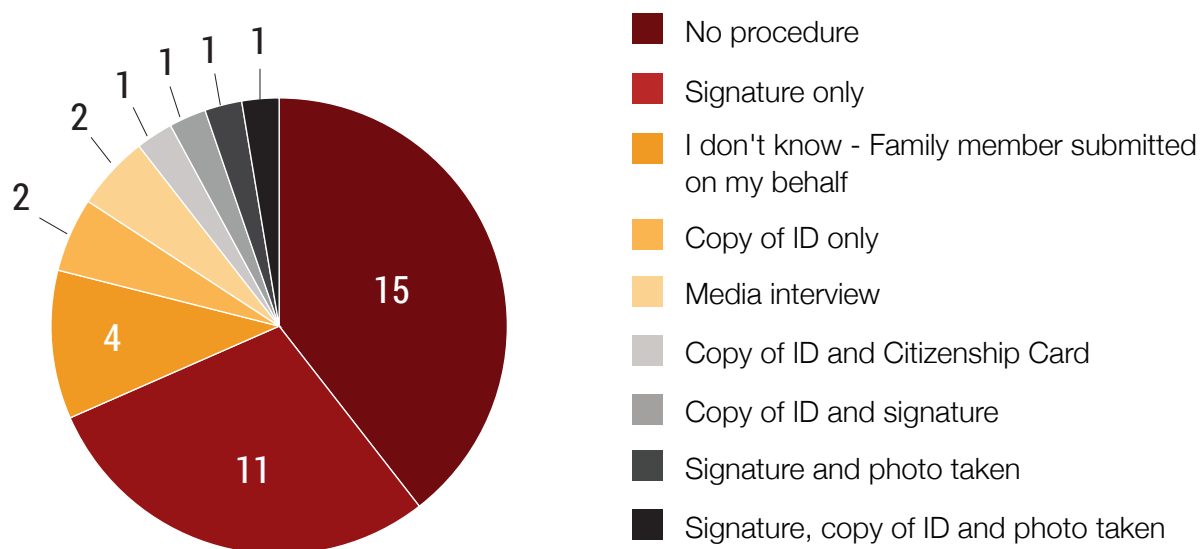
The MoMD representative stated that the survivors do not need to sign any documents when collecting the grant money. Instead, fingerprints are taken on a ready form, and IDs are checked. The Office for Abductee Yazidis is requesting the documents to confirm their identity, to make sure they are survivors and not just claiming to be.³²

Recommendation

Media presence should not be allowed neither at the MoMD office nor at the Office for Yazidi Abductees. If the media is insistent, an agreement should be made to give survivors who are interested in publicity and speaking to the media the option to do so in another setting.

The media's presence compromises the survivors' rights to privacy and integrity in a place where their interests and welfare should be paramount.

EXHIBIT 8: WHEN YOU COLLECTED THE MONEY, WHAT WAS THE PROCEDURE? (EXAMPLES - DID YOU HAVE TO GIVE ANY STATEMENT, WERE YOU PHOTOGRAPHED)



³²Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

³³Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

5. DID YOU AT ANY POINT FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE OR SCARED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS OF APPLICATION OR RECEIVING MONEY?

"I WISHED THEY HAD DISTRIBUTED IN DUHOK, NOT ERBIL, AND I WAS NOT COMFORTABLE BECAUSE OF MEDIA."

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Khanki camp, KRG

The 38 survivors were asked if they felt uncomfortable or scared at any point throughout the process of applying for or receiving money, and if yes, what was the reason.

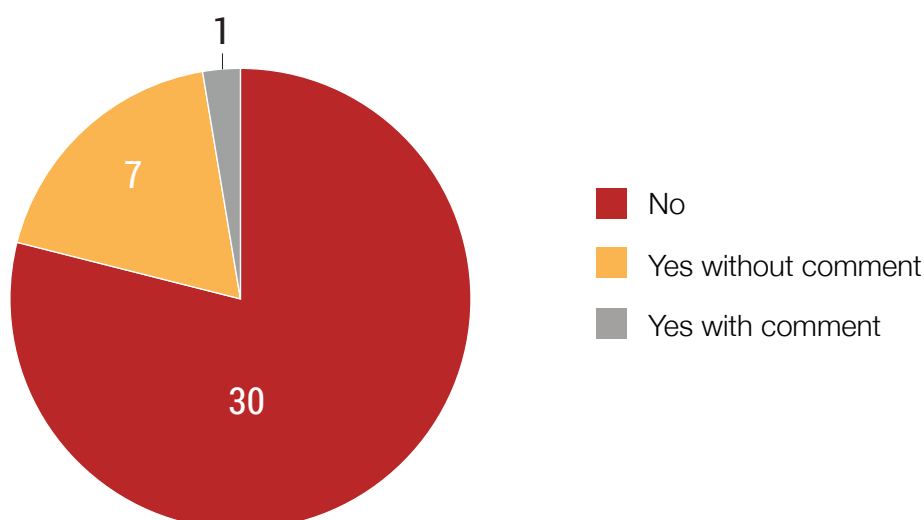
Thirty survivors answered no. One added that nothing had happened to her personally but explained: **"I know a survivor who came from outside Iraq some time ago to receive the grant, and the officer of the MoMD insulted her and told her that she should be ashamed for coming from outside of Iraq to receive the grant."** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Qadia camp, KRG). In his role as an observer, the representative of the Office for Yazidi Abductees stated that he had witnessed in one instance an MoMD officer behaving in a rude way towards beneficiaries. He reported said officer, and she was removed from her duties.³³

One survivor replied: **"I wished they had distributed in Duhok, not Erbil, and I was not comfortable because of media."** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 26 years old, living currently in Khanki camp, KRG).

Seven survivors replied yes without giving a specific reason.

EXHIBIT 9:

DID YOU AT ANY POINT FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE OR SCARED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS OF APPLICATION OR RECEIVING MONEY?



6. DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW OTHER WOMEN SURVIVORS WHO DID NOT RECEIVE THE GRANT? IF YES, WHAT IS THE REASON THEY DIDN'T RECEIVE IT?

“YES, I KNOW MANY SURVIVORS WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE MONEY AND NONE OF US KNOWS WHY. MY TWO DAUGHTERS, MY SISTER IN LAW AND MY AUNT ARE ALL SURVIVORS BUT NONE OF THEM HAS RECEIVED THE GRANT AND WE STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY”

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 39 years old, living currently in Australia

Finally, the 38 beneficiaries were asked if they personally knew other women survivors who did not receive the grant, and if yes, what was the reason for it.

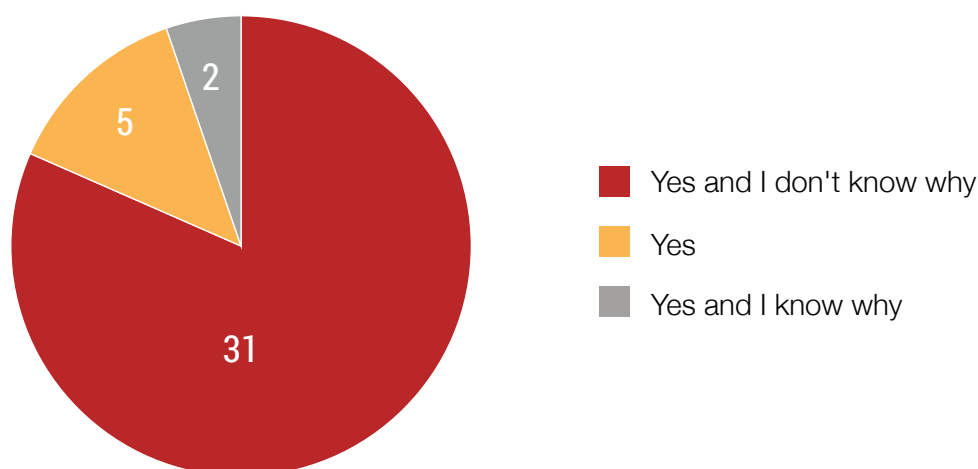
In total 33 beneficiaries answered that they knew survivors who had not received the grant. Among them were their sisters, sisters-in-law, daughters, cousins, aunts, and friends: **“Yes, I know many survivors who have not received the money and none of us knows why. My two daughters, my sister in law and my aunt are all survivors but none of them has received the grant and we still don't understand why”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 39 years old, living currently in Australia).

Some 31 didn't know why these survivors had not received the grant. Two were able to provide reasons; one explained that the Office for Yazidi Abductees told her that it was because her name was not registered for the grant yet, while the other one stated that it was because they were still minors.

Five survivors did not know of other women survivors who have not received the grant.

EXHIBIT 10:

DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW OTHER WOMEN SURVIVORS WHO DID NOT RECEIVE IT? IF YES, WHAT IS THE REASON THEY DIDN'T RECEIVE IT?



CATEGORY (B) - SURVIVORS WHO APPLIED TO THE GRANT AND DID NOT RECEIVE IT

Out of the 100 survivors interviewed, 51 stated that they applied for the grant but had not received it. The survivors were subsequently asked the following questions:

1. What was the reason you did not get the grant?
2. Who provided you explanation for not receiving the grant?
3. Was the explanation sufficiently clear to you?
4. What are the outstanding questions for which you would like answers?

1. WHAT WAS THE REASON YOU DIDN'T GET THE GRANT?

"THEY TOLD ME YOU HAVE APPLIED TOO LATE BUT I DID NOT EVEN KNOW I HAD TO APPLY OR WHAT EVEN WHAT I HAD TO DO"

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 30 years old, living currently in Australia

The survivors were asked the reason why they had not received the grant yet. Multiple answers were suggested to them:

- a. Lack of documents (specify);
- b. I was not registered in the Office for Rescuing Missing Persons;
- c. They told me there is no money anymore;
- d. Other (specify)

In total 34 survivors answered that they did not know why they have not received the grant.

Six survivors were told that the grant is distributed in groups, and that they were not on the list of the first group that had received the grant meaning they had to wait. No timeline was given to any of them. One of them was told that she had applied too late and that she had to wait: **"They told me you have applied too late but I did not even know I had to apply or what even what I had to do"** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 30 years old, living currently in Australia).

Five survivors were told that there was no money left.

Two survivors were told that the grant distribution was delayed because of the pandemic. One of them said that the Office for Yazidi Abductees told her that there was money available for her, but that the payment is delayed due to the pandemic: **"The Office of Kidnapped told me there is money for you but because of corona there is nothing now and we will call you later. It has been months, they still**

have not called me back” (Yazidi Female Survivor, 22 years old, living currently in Sinuni, Sinjar).

The MoMD representative stated that the reason why the grant stopped being paid out is because the Ministry of Migration and Displacement is waiting for the new budget to be approved by the Parliament in Baghdad. He added that at the moment, there is no timeframe and that it all depends on Baghdad and whether the application is complete.³⁴

Two survivors stated they were told that they had not received the grant because they were minors. Yazda has, however, interviewed four survivors who were minors when they applied and have received the grant.

The MoMD representative confirmed that there is no age criteria to apply for the grant. Still underage survivors need a close relative or guardian who has custody, who can accompany, apply, and receive the grant money.³⁵

One survivor said that she was not registered in the Office for Yazidi Abductees. Indeed, some survivors are not registered in the database of MoMD, or with NGOs. The reason is that some families are not allowing the survivors to register themselves in the MoMD database due to cultural stigmatization. As a result, these survivors will not be able to benefit from the survivors' grant.

Recommendation

Eligibility criteria is one of the main issues for anyone trying to access this grant: It is unclear why some survivors receive the grant and others do not and why minor survivors are told that they are not eligible to the grant.

Among our interviewees, some members of the same family received the grant whilst others did not, creating a lot of frustration. The representative of the Office for Yazidi Abductees stated that MoMD was selecting the names of survivors randomly whilst the representative of MoMD raised the same concerns about the Office for Yazidi Abductees³⁶. Eligibility criteria for the grant needs to be urgently clarified and based on objective reasons (emergency, date of return from captivity, one beneficiary per family until more funds are available etc.).

Moreover, when an applicant claims to be a survivor, it is highly recommended to use, in addition to the database of the Office for Yazidi Abductees, other sources (the Commission for Investigation and Gathering Evidence and NGOs) to confirm or deny the survivor status of an applicant.

Finally, the timeline for any future payouts remains unclear. Although the global pandemic has delayed

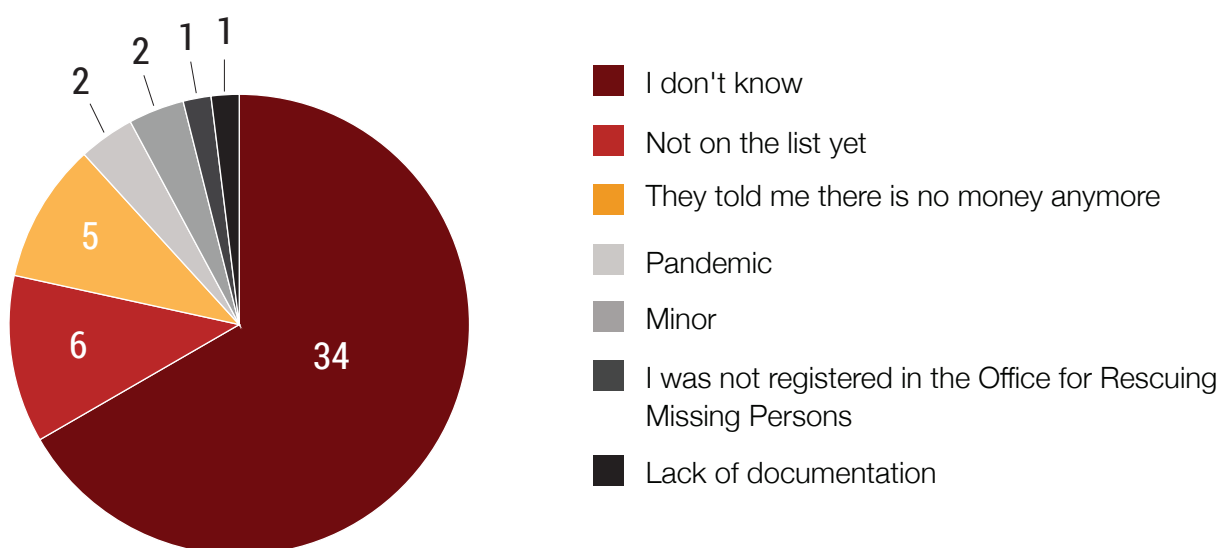
³⁴Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

³⁵Interview conducted with Iskanadar Mohammed Amin on 27 January 2021 in the MoMD Office in Duhok, KRG, Iraq.

³⁶Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020; Interview conducted with Hussein Koro on 23 December 2020 in Duhok, KRG, Iraq..

many governmental activities, uncertainty about the next steps for the grant was already present prior to the pandemic. The last grant payment to a survivor was made in June 2019. In order to manage the survivors' expectations and not leave them in a state of uncertainty, it is strongly recommended that the MoMD work on a timeline and be transparent with the survivors.

EXHIBIT 11: WHAT WAS THE REASON YOU DIDN'T GET THE GRANT?



2. WHO PROVIDED YOU WITH AN EXPLANATION FOR WHY YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE GRANT?

"NOBODY PROVIDED US WITH ANY EXPLANATION"

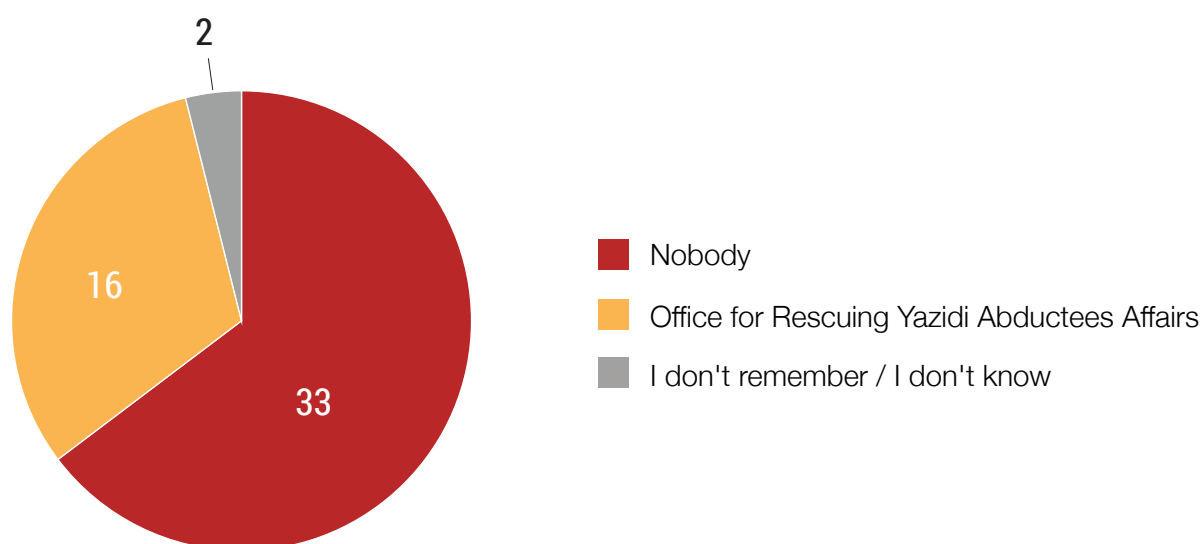
- Yazidi Female Survivor

When asked who provided them with these explanations, the majority of the 33 survivors replied, **"nobody provided us with any explanation"**. Sixteen received explanations from the Office for Yazidi Abductees.

One survivor replied, **“I do not know who gave me the explanation”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 21 years old, living currently in Australia), and another one did not remember.

This again suggests the need for more efforts in providing necessary information about the procedure to applicants and potential beneficiaries.

EXHIBIT 12:
WHO PROVIDED YOU WITH AN EXPLANATION FOR WHY YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE GRANT?



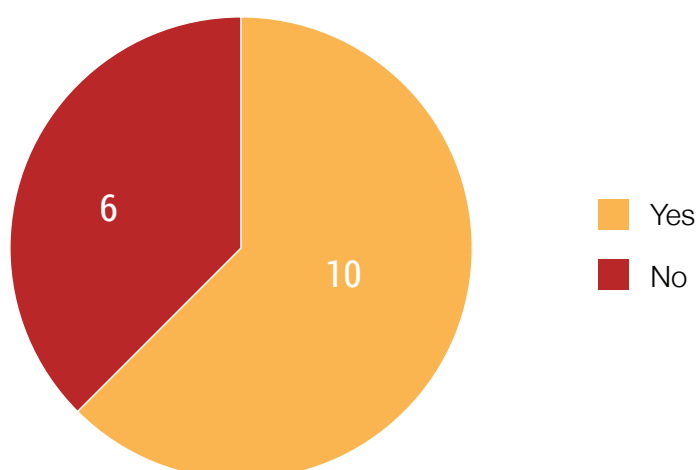
3. WAS THE EXPLANATION SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO YOU?

“THE EXPLANATIONS WERE NOT CLEAR ENOUGH”

- Yazidi Female Survivor

Out of the 16 who had received an explanation, 10 confirmed that the explanations were sufficiently clear. Six answered, **“the explanations were not clear enough”**.

EXHIBIT 13:
WAS THE EXPLANATION SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO YOU?



4. WHAT ARE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS FOR WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERS?

“WHY DID SOME SURVIVORS RECEIVE THE GRANT WHILE OTHERS DID NOT? WE NEED TO GET OUR RIGHTS, AND THIS IS OUR SIMPLEST RIGHT SO WHY DO THEY MAKE US SO TIRED, AND ALSO, WHY DID MY MOTHER AND MY SISTER-IN-LAW GET THE MONEY AND I DIDN’T GET IT YET?”

- Yazidi Female Survivor, 21 years old, living currently in Australia

Finally, the survivors were asked if there were any outstanding questions for which they would like answers.

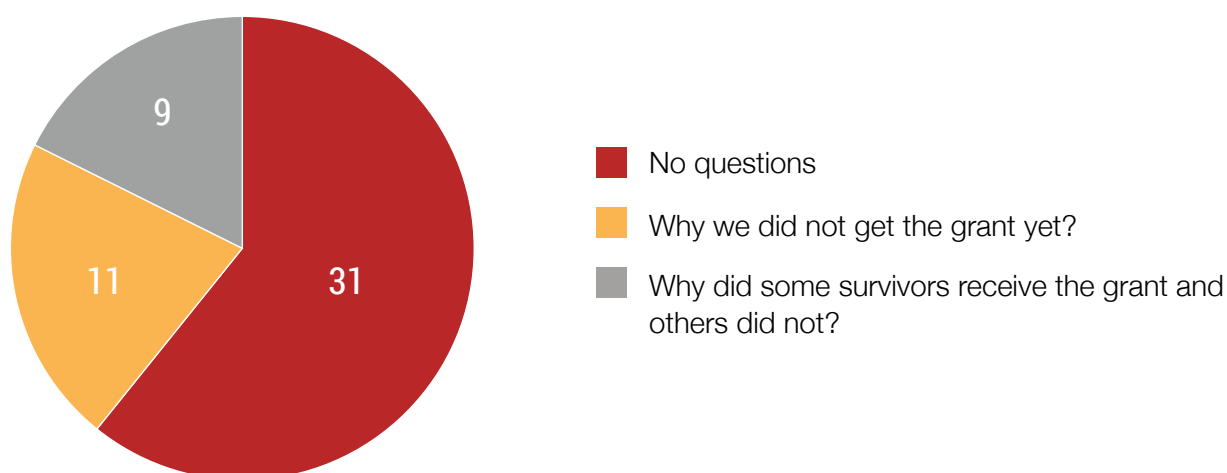
Some 31 survivors answered that they did not have any questions.

Eleven said, **“my question is why I did not receive the grant yet”**. One of them added: **“Why did we not get the grant yet? Why don't they give us our rights? I had borrowed money to pay for my daughter's ransom [paid to a smuggler to get her daughter back], and I wonder how I can pay off this debt if I don't get this grant as well.”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 46 years old, living currently in Canada).

Nine survivors asked about clarifications as to why they did not receive the grant when other survivors did; one survivor added, **“I hoped that the distribution of the grant would be fair, so that all survivors receive it equally, and that no distinction is made between us survivors”**. (Yazidi Female Survivor, 30 years old, currently living in Australia). Another added: **“Why did some survivors receive the grant while others did not? We need to get our rights, and this is our simplest right so why do they make us so tired, and also, why did my mother and my sister-in-law get the money and I didn’t get it yet?”** (Yazidi Female Survivor, 21 years old, living currently in Australia)

All these remarks coming from survivors suggest the need to clarify and explain eligibility. There is also a risk that some survivors end up thinking that there is a classification among survivors and that the crimes committed against them are not as important as the ones committed against the survivors who have received the grant.

EXHIBIT 14:
WHAT ARE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS FOR WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERS?



CONCLUSION

Although it is a one-time payment, the survivors grant of 2 million Iraqi dinars given to Yazidi female survivors is a commendable effort by the Government of Iraq to support victims' rehabilitation.

However, the grant's full reparative effect remains unattained due to a lack of clarity about the procedure and poor visibility of the scheme. Survivors are an extremely vulnerable group, and raising expectations of such a payment without clear guidance about the procedure and other essential elements can damage the process of restoring confidence in Iraqi institutions. Moreover, the lack of fixed and public eligibility criteria creates confusion. It sets a discouraging precedent in providing reparations to CRSV survivors' by providing this payment to some survivors and not others without transparent legitimate justification. It remains also unclear why Yazidi children and male survivors are not beneficiaries of this grant. The grant should be extended to all IS victims regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, and age. Finally, any media coverage of the grant should be avoided unless informed consent of survivors is obtained in advance.

Consolidation of some programme elements such as the definition of beneficiaries, eligibility criteria, and procedure for assessing the grant will ensure greater programme effectiveness and safeguard its legitimacy. Currently, the main obstacles for this are insufficient coordination between federal and Kurdistan institutions that are implementing the scheme and insufficient efforts to raise awareness about the grant among potential beneficiaries.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT:

- Ensure better coordination between the ministries and committees working on reparation.
- The Iraqi Parliament to enact the Yazidi Female Survivors Bill.
- Include all survivors, irrespective of their religious, gender, or community background, in all grants that serve individual and communal rehabilitation provided by the government.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IRAQI MINISTRY OF MIGRATION AND DISPLACED (MOMD):

- Establish regular coordination meetings between the MoMD office in Erbil and the Office for Yazidi Abductees.
- Provide transparency on the criteria of selection for those receiving the grant and those not receiving the grant (eligibility criteria).
- Involve additional institutions and organizations in the process of identifying and engaging with (potential) beneficiaries.
- Inform applicants about why the grant is not being provided anymore and what further steps will be put in place.
- Clarify the nature of the grant (who is paying and how much) and distinguish it from other grants (especially the returnee grant) and assistance.
- Provide the grant expeditiously to the survivors who have applied.
- Simplify the application requirements given that many survivors have insufficient, if any, legal documentation.
- Simplify the application process for survivors who are not currently residing in the country.
- Extend the grant to all IS survivors regardless of ethnicity, religion, age, and gender.
- Train all officers who work closely with survivors, on how to work with a survivor- centered approach so that survivors are not further stigmatized when applying for the grant.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KRG'S MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND THE OFFICE OF KIDNAPPED AND RESCUE AFFAIRS:

- Take a proactive approach in addressing issues regarding the grant's implementation, such as following up with the MoMD about the selection of the beneficiaries, timing of the distribution of the grant, etc.
- In coordination with MoMD, conduct outreach activities to inform survivors about roles of different bodies in the Survivors' Grant scheme, procedure, and eligibility criteria (such as leaflets, posters, hotlines).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY:

- Support advocacy efforts in order to ensure all survivors receive this grant and other grants they are entitled to.
- Support the institutions who are involved in the Survivors' Grant scheme through technical and capacity building.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NGOS:

- Raise awareness about this grant among survivors and explain the distinction between this grant and other types of assistance.
- Support survivors in the application process.
- Coordinate with the relevant authorities to keep survivors updated about their application status, any change, delay, or any defect that may occur in the distribution of this grant.
- Share experience with the relevant governmental bodies, whose work is linked with survivors, with capacity building on how to support survivors without stigmatizing and further harming them.